ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Systems and methods for directing client requests and for selecting a back end server to service client requests. A front end server receives client requests and based on the URI of the requests, directs the request to a back end server. The client request can be for a private or a public folder and each back end server typically stores both private and public folders. If the request is for a private folder, then the front end server determines which server stores that user's private folder and directs the client request to that folder. If the request is for a home public folder, the front end server directs the client request to the server that is associated with the private folders of the users. If the request is for an application public folder, then the front end server selects one of the back end servers to service the client request. Advantageously, the front end server always directs the client request to the same server. If the selected server is unavailable, then the front end server is capable of redirecting the client request to an available server.

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